Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 DHA-02 EB-04 SP-02 INR-05 L-01 A-01 IO-06 IGA-01 /045 W

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P 211538Z SEP 77 FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0498

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LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: US PL EAGR EAID SHUM AFSP

SUBJ: POLISH REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL GRAIN PURCHASES

REF: WARSAW 6693

- 1. IN ANTICIPATION OF AMBASSADOR TRAMPCZYNSKI'S MEETING WITH UNDER SECRETARY COOPER (REF), I AM SUBMITTING SOME TALKING POINTS FOR USE BY THE UNDER SECRETARY ON TWO NON-ECONOMIC SUBJECTS I RECOMMEND HE RAISE. I ASSUME THAT EUR'S BRIEFING MEMORANDUM WILL COVER BILATERAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS AND WILL PROVIDE ANY OTHER BACKGROUND INFORMATION THE UNDER SECRETARY MAY NEED.
- 2. IN RECOMMENDING THAT THESE TWO TOPICS BE RAISED WITH TRAMPCZYNSKI, I AM NOT SUGGESTING THAT WE MAKE OUR CONSIDERATION OF WHETHER WE WANT TO ASSIST THE POLES CONDITIONAL ON SOLUTION OF OTHER PROBLEMS. I DO BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT THE POLES SHOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO TAKE OUR GOOD WILL FOR GRANTED OR TO TRADE ON THEIR VERY CORRECT ASSUMPTION THAT WE CONSIDER IT IN OUR INTEREST TO DO WHAT WE REASONABLY CAN TO HELP IMPROVE THE LOT OF THE AVERAGE POLE.
- 3. IN RECENT YEARS, THE POLISH LEADERSHIP HAS COME TO CONFIDENTIAL

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US FOR ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT IN A NUMBER OF AREAS: PL-480 ROLL-OVER, GDANSK GOLD, CCC CREDITS, AND VARIOUS OTHER BILATERAL AGREEMENTS OF BENEFIT TO THE GOP. WE HAVE RESPONDED AFFIRMATIVELY TO THESE REQUESTS AND HAVE ASKED LITTLE IN RETURN. WHAT WE HAVE ASKED FOR (E.G., MORE LIBERAL EMIGRATION PRACTISES AND ASSISTANCE IN ACQUIRING PROPERTY) HAS BEEN FOR THE MOST PART

DENIED. I RECOMMEND THAT WE TELL THE POLES THIS IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR REQUEST FOR CONCESSIONARY AGRICULTURAL SALES AND THAT WE SERVE NOTICE THAT OUR RELATIVELY MODES REQUESTS ARE MADE IN ALL SERIOUSNESS AND WITH THE FULL BACKING OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT. I REALIZE THAT A SUBJECT LIKE THE ACQUISITION OF REAL ESTATE TO HOUSE FOREIGN SERVICE PERSONNEL MAY NOT APPEAR TO BE OF MAJOR CONSEQUENCE FROM THE VANTAGE POINT OF WASHINGTON,BUT I ASSURE THE DEPARTMENT THAT OUR FAILURE TO RESOLVE OUR OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS IN THIS AREA HAS SERIOUSLY HAMPERED THE PERFORMANCE OF MY MISSION HERE AND HAS COST, AND IS COSTING, THE AMERICAN TAXPAYER SUBSTANTIALS SUMS OF MONEY.

4. ON BOTH DIVIDED FAMILIES AND THE PROPERTY QUESTION, I SUGGEST THAT THE UNDER SECRETARY RAISE THESE AFTER HEARING TRAMPCZYNSKI OUT ON HIS REQUEST FOR CONCESSIONARY SALES FO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND AFTER HE HAS RESPONDED TO IT SPECIFICALLY.

5. THE UNDER SECRETARY MIGHT THEN ADD:

A. WE ARE PLEASED THAT OUR FOOD RESERVES ARE SUCH AS TO PERMIT US TO GIVE SERIOUDS CONSIDERATION TO THE GOP'S REQUEST. I HOPE WE WILL BE ABLE IN SOME MEASURE TO HELP MEET POLAND'S NEEDS. AS THE AMBASSADOR KNOWS, CONFIDENTIAL

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THIS RESPONSE IS CONSISTENT WITH THE GENERAL DESIRE OF OUR GOVERNMENT TO BE COOPERATIVE AND HELPFUL IN ITS RELATIONS WITH POLAND.

B. FROM TIME TO TIME, WE HAVE ASKED FOR THE ASSISTANCE OF YOUR GOVERNMENT IN DEALING WITH MATTERS OF CONCERN TO US. THESE REQUESTS HAVE GENERALLY BEEN RECEIVED IN A POSITIVE MANNER BY YOUR GOVERNMENT.

C. UNFORTUNATELY, HOWEVER, THESE EXPRESSIONS OF GOOD WILL AND COOPERATION HAVE NOT ALWAYS BEEN FOLLOWED BY ACTION. I HAVE IN MIND TWO MATTERS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO MY GOVERNMENT. ONE HAS TO DO WITH DIVIDED FAMILIES AND THE OTHER WITH PROPERTY ACQUISTION. D. ON THE FORMER, I KNOW THAT MANY DISCUSSIONS HAVE OCCURRED AT VARIOUS LEVELS AND THE POLISH SIDE HAS MADE ITS POSITION CLEAR. ON THE OTHER HAND, AS A NATION OF IMMIGRANTS, WE AMERICANS PLACE GREAT IMPORTANCE ON THE FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY WHERE DIVIDED FAMILIES ARE CONCERNED.

E. WE RECONGNIZE THAT THE POLISH GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED

TO EMIGRATION IN A NUMBER OF CASES INVLOVING HUMANITARIAN CONCERNS. ON MANY OTHER CASES, HOWEVER, WE ARE DISAPPOINTED THAT APPROVAL FOR EMIGRATION HAS NOT BEEN GRANTED. WE VIEW THIS AS INCONSISTENT WITH THE GENERALLY GOOD STATE OF BILATERAL RELATIONS. IN ONE CASE, THAT OF A POLISH CITIZEN MARRIED TO AN AMERICAN (JERZY STROJEK), A PASSPORT HAS REPEATEDLY BEEN REFUSED ON COMPLETELY ARBITRARY GROUNDS, WITHOUT ANY EXPLANATION, AFTER YOU, MR. AMBASSADOR, TOLD AMBASSADOR DAVIES OVER A YEAR AGO THAT IT WOULD BE ISSUED.

F. ON PROPERTY QUESTIONS, THE POLISH GOVERNMENT COMMITTED ITSELF, UNDER SIX PL-480 AGREEMENTS NEGOTIATED BETWEEN 1957 AND 1963, THAT ZLOTY FUNDS ACQUIRED BY THE CONFIDENTIAL

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U.S. AS A RESULT OF THOSE AGREEMENTS COULD BE EMPLOYED FOR THE ACQUISTION OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS FOR UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT USE IN POLAND. THE COMMITTMENT OF THE GOP TO SUPPORT OUR REQUESTS FOR PROPERTY ACQUISITION WAS REITERATERED IN A LETTER FROM VICE MINISTER OF FINANCE KRZAK TO SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER, DATED MAY 15, 1975.

G. WE DO NOT CONSIDER THAT THIS COMMITTMENT HAS BEEN HONORED. FOR EXAMPLE, THE CITY AUTHORITIES OF WARSAW HAVE WITHHELD PERMISSION FOR THE PURCHASE OF BUILDING SITES AND HAVE TIED PERMISSION TO BUY A SCHOOL BUILDING TO A DEMAND FOR A PROHIBITIVELY HIGH LAND RENT.

H. FURTHER, WE DO NOT BELIEVE WE HAVE RECEIVED ADEQUATE ASSISTANCE FROM THE POLISH SIDE IN OUR ATTEMPTS TO FIND SUITABLE HOUSING FOR THE AMERICAN STAFF OF OUR CONSULATE IN KRAKOW. THE RESULT IS THAT ONE VICE CONSUL IS LIVING IN A HOTEL, WITH LITTLE PROSPECT OF MOVING INTO AN APPROPRIATE APARTMENT OR HOUSE IN THE FORE-SEEABLE FUTURE. ANOTHER VICE CONSUL, SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN KRAKOW IN EARLY WINTER, WILL ALSO HAVE TO STAY INDEFINITIVELY IN A HOTEL, UNLESS THE PRESENT SITUATION IMPROVES APPRECIABLY.

I. WE ARE NOT SEEKING TO PLACE PRECONDITIONS ON OUR CONSIDERATION OF WAYS IN WHICH WE MIGHT HELP DEAL WITH POLAND'S GRAIN PRBLEMS. IN DEVELOPING OUR RESPONSE TO YOUR REQUEST, HOWEVER, WE CANNOT FAIL TO BE MINDFUL OF YOUR GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSES TO CONCERNS OF OURS, AND WE TRUST THAT PROGRESS IN THOSE AREAS I HAVE MENTIONED CAN BE MADE PARALLEL WITH PROGRESS IN OUR ATTENTION TO THE REQUEST YOU HAVE PLACED BEFORE ME. CONFIDENTIAL

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6. THIS PRESENTATION SHOULD BE MADE ONLY WITH REFERENCE TO THE POLISH GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST THAT WE PROVIDE FACILITIES MORE FAVORABLE THAN THOSE OF CCC FOR THE PURCHASE OF GRAIN. IF AMBASSADOR TRAMPCZYNSKI SHOULD ASK, THE UNDER SECRETARY SHOULD SPECIFY THAT HE WAS NOT TALKING ABOUT THE STILL PENDING POLISH REQUEST FOR AN ADDITIONAL CCC ALLOCATION, BUT SOLELY WITH REFERENCE TO THE POLISH REQUEST FOR TERMS MORE FAVORABLE THAN THOSE OF CCC. IT WOULD, OF COURSE, BE PREFERABLE IF THE UNDER SECRETARY DOES NOT HAVE TO MAKE THIS POINT.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT, GRAINS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977WARSAW06751
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS

Errors: N/A **Expiration:**

Film Number: D770344-0864

Format: TEL From: WARSAW **Handling Restrictions:** Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770936/aaaabefm.tel

Line Count: 187 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 10eb7240-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS Reference: 77 WARSAW 6693

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 02-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 1180588 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: POLISH REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL GRAIN PURCHASES

TAGS: EAGR, EAID, SHUM, AFSP, US, PL

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/10eb7240-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009